

Message Text

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54

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PA-04 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /044 W
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R 011547Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8913

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER

USNAVEUR LONDON ENG

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER

AMEMBASSY ROME

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DIA FOR AA-4; DI-5

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO, IT, US

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENT ON YUGOSLAV-ITALIAN RELATIONS

1. WEEKEND YUGOSLAV PRESS IS FILLED WITH REPORTS OF "SPONTANEOUS" DEMONSTRATIONS BY YOUTH/WORKERS/CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS IN MANY CITIES THROUGHOUT YUGOSLAVIA, MEETING AND MARCHING IN PROTEST AGAINST THE ITALIAN DEMARCHE (NOTE) OF 11 MAR 74. CONSISTENT THEMES ARE IRREDENTISM/REVANCHISM OF ITALIAN ACTION, SEEN AS AN ANOMOLY IN FACE OF RECENT HISTORY OF GOOD RELATIONS; RECOLLECTIONS OF WWII FASCISM; AND READINESS OF ALL PEOPLES DEFENSE TO MEET ANY AND ALL THREATS TO YUGOSLAV SOVEREIGNTY. MOST PROEST MEETINGS/DEMONSTRATIONS CULMINATED IN TELEGRAMS TO MARSHAL TITO.

2. TWO ATTEMPTS TO TIE U.S. BY IMPLICATION TO ZONE B CONTROVERSY CONTAINED IN WEEKEND MEDIA. FIRST WAS REPORT OF MARCH 29 SPEECH TO LC KOSOVO CONGRESS BY KOSOVO PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ILIJAZ KURTESI WHO, REFERRING TO INTERNAL ITALIAN POLITICAL PROBLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LEMS AND NEED FOR SUPPORT "FROM POWERFUL FINANCIAL AND OTHER

CIRCLES," SAID IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF ITALY "DID NOT FALL
UNDER THEIR INFLUENCE, AT EXPENSE OF RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA."
OTHER ITEM WAS EDITORIAL CARTOON IN MARCH 30 EDITION OF SOCIALIST
ALLIANCE ORGAN BORBA WHICH SHOWED FASCIST TOY SOLDIER GOOSE-
STEPPING INTO ISTRIA WITH KEY IN BACK BEING TURNED BY HAND
SPORTING DOLLAR SIGN ON CUFF LINK. SO FAR, HOWEVER, THEME OF
POSSIBLE US ROLE IN ITALIAN "REVANCHISM" HAS BEEN KEPT LOW KEY AND
HAS NOT BEEN SOUNDED BY ANY MAJOR SPOKESMEN.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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